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THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 1897.

THE salmon canneries at Astoria, Oregon, have no workmen except Chinamen.

THE City of Mexico through its authorities has decided to have no more Sunday bull fights.

THE Texas Legislature has appropriated five thousand dollars for the relief of the flood sufferers at El Paso, Texas.

It is said that the Southern Pacific railroad company have purchased the San Marcial coal fields in the state of Hermosillo, Mexico.

AN earthquake was felt along the Atlantic coast on last Monday. It lasted for five minutes and the motion was from South to North.

ONE hundred years ago there was not a public library in the United States. Now almost every city in the Union is provided with one.

A SHORT time since a prospector found a pocket of gold in Poor Man's Gulch, Calaveras county, Cal. The find increased his wealth \$6,000.

THE tailings of the Vulture mine is being treated by the cyanide process, and a 100-ton plant will soon be erected. The Vulture was once one of the richest mines in Arizona.

THE town of Lowell, Maine, is becoming famous. It has a woman physician, a woman stage driver, a woman postmistress and a woman Justice of the Peace.

An international game of chess between the house of representatives and the British House of Commons quite recently interested some of our national lawmakers.

A PAPER in Louisville refers to the death of a young man of that city who called upon his best girl one night and shot himself in the vestibule. We are satisfied the young man died, as a shot in the vestibule is almost certain to produce certain death.

SEVEN hundred convicts of the San Quentin prison recently made an outbreak on the guards. The guards at once turned their rifles on the convicts, and several of them were wounded. Order was soon restored. The outbreak was caused on account of the prisoners being fed on bread and water.

THERE is some talk of an extra session of the Arizona Legislature being called for the purpose of repealing the new murder law passed by the Nineteenth Legislative Assembly. We doubt it being done, as it will require the consent of the President, and most of the murders which are subject to the new law will have been tried before the extra session can now be called, and it would entail a large debt on Arizona.

ON last Monday, at Joliet, Ill., George Sage aged 21 years died of consumption, hastened by worrying over the affairs of his parents. The millionaire, Russell Sage, held a mortgage of \$400 on the home of George's father and forced him to pay the same when not able. It worried the young man to think his uncle, who is a millionaire, should force his father to destitution for the sake of a few dollars. The supervisors of the county where young Sage lived had written Russell Sage two years previous to make provisions for the young man to keep him out of the poor house, but their appeal was unanswered, and so George Sage died in a poor house notwithstanding his uncle is a millionaire.

DURRANT'S CHANCES DESPERATE

THEODORE DURRANT who has become noted in the annals of criminal history, will suffer the death penalty for taking the life of Blanch Lamont. He has stood game and defiant from the time of his arrest, and all through his trial bore the nerve of a hardened desperado. He has never weakened, nor shown the least bit of uneasiness as regards his fate. As a last resort he appealed to Governor Budd of California for executive clemency—all the time claiming his innocence. The Governor acted with a great degree of caution in the matter, and made a thorough examination of all the evidence. He has not acted hastily, but every detail has been looked after, and nothing left out which would throw any light on the case either way. Durrant has made the declaration that if he must meet his fate on the gallows he will die like a man. He also declares that he will die in the presence of his parents, who will insist on attending the execution as invited guests. Mrs. Durrant, mother of Theodore, will press her rights to be present at the execution and it seems that under the rules of hanging, that if she presents an invitation from her son to be present at the execution that she can't be deprived of that right. Durrant's attorneys have worked like heroes to save their client's neck. They will now present an appeal to the United States court and endeavor to show that Durrant did not have a fair and impartial trial as guaranteed by the constitution. They now want the Minnie Williams case tried, and have great hopes of gaining some points in favor of their client. Mrs. Durrant, mother of Theodore, in speaking of the trial of Minnie Williams, says: "I hope Governor Budd will commute the sentence or reprieve Theodore, which will give us an opportunity to ask for the trial of the Minnie Williams case. We have always hoped the Minnie Williams case would be brought to trial. I know and feel that if my boy is tried on that case his innocence will be proved to the world. He wants to be tried on that charge, his parents demand it, his attorneys ask it, and I believe there are hundreds, if not thousands, of people in California who would be only too glad to give my boy, my Theo, an opportunity to prove that he is not responsible for those horrible crimes. Oh, how I do hope that case will be tried."

"I will say again and say it to the people of California and to the whole world that I, the mother of Theodore Durrant, am anxious—oh, so anxious—that my innocent boy may be tried for the murder of poor little Minnie Williams. For if it is our good fortune to secure the trial of the Williams case we who know are certain that Theo will come back to us without a stain upon his character."

OSCAR WILDE ON PRISON LIFE.

Oscar Wilde, since his liberation from prison has written a three column letter regarding the dismissal of a warden of Reading Jail, London, for giving biscuits to a hungry child prisoner. Wilde says: "The cruelty practiced day and night upon children in English prisons is incredible, except to those who have witnessed it. The contaminating influence of English prisons is not that of the prisoners; it is that of the whole system. Governor, chaplain, wardens, lonely cell, revolting food, the rules of the prison, the commissioners, the mode of discipline, etc."

Wilde further declares that at Reading, a youthful prisoner is being made mad by the system, adding:

"At present it is a horrible duel between himself and the doctor; the doctor fighting for his theory and the man fighting for his life."

The Phoenix Gazette of the 2nd says: Commencing to-morrow the S. F. P. & P. railroad will run excursions from Phoenix to Flagstaff every two weeks, charging one fare for the round trip and giving lay-over tickets good for sixty days. The people of Phoenix ought to take advantage of this privilege and spend a few weeks in Flagstaff, one of the prettiest little mountain towns in the United States. Mr. Sargent has always endeavored to accommodate the citizens of Phoenix by granting them every reasonable demand and this sixty days' stopover is one that will undoubtedly be appreciated.

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Mars, By Lowell.

Astronomer Percival Lowell, who recently returned to Boston from taking extensive observations of Mars and Venus from observatories at Flagstaff, Arizona, and in Mexico, tells some interesting stories about our outer and inner nearest neighbors. The atmosphere both in Arizona and Mexico is exceedingly rare and clear, and affords the best possible chance to observe those planets from the earth. He says:

"Mars has an atmosphere slightly less dense than our own. This serves to keep the surface at a mean temperature above that of the earth. We know this because, while Mars shows polar caps like our own planet, these melt off in the late summer very much more than on the earth. The presence of polar snow indicates that there is water on the surface of Mars, but these last observations at Flagstaff and Mexico have shown that there is almost no water on the planet, visible as such—that is, in the form of lakes or oceans or seas. The observations have shown that the blue-green patches formerly supposed to be water are, in reality, tracts of vegetation. We know this for the following reasons:

"First—They are not of the same tint throughout the whole Martian year.

"Second—They are darkest just at the season when vegetation would be most luxuriant, and lightest when it would be most in decay.

"Third—They undergo a process of transformation.

"So soon as the polar snow has begun to melt, its retreating edges is surrounded by a dark blue belt which follows it as it goes back toward the poles. This is apparently the only body of water visible to us.

"As soon as the melting of the snow is well under way—a phenomenon which occurs as on the earth in the late spring and early summer—the blue-green areas in its neighborhood darken and continue to darken for a couple of Martian months. Then as autumn advances they proceed to fade out, owing, as it is believed, to the leaves.

"At the same time throughout the rose orange parts of the planet, which are undoubtedly great desert tracts, the so-called 'canals' make their appearance, and then gradually darken, just as the other blue-green areas did, and they themselves are also apparently of a blue-green tint.

"This is not all. As the large blue-green areas lighten, canals make their appearance through them also, showing conclusively that they are not oceans, but tracts of vegetation. These canals in the dark region connect directly with those in the light one and with others that run straight up to the snow. This makes a complete chain to conduct the water from the poles to every part of the planet.

"Now, such a marvelous system as this appears to be cannot well be due to any natural forces, and finds its best explanation in the presence of local intelligence on the planet, which has purposely created a system of irrigation for the perpetuity of its own existence."

There is just enough of Professor Lowell's observations to whet our appetites for more knowledge about our strange neighbors. What kind of a globe must it be to admit of irrigating ditches from the poles to the equator, and where everything gravitates towards the equator? The so-called canals are supposed by Prof. Lowell to be from eighty to a hundred miles wide, and certainly indicate that "there were giants in those days" when the canals were constructed. The idea that the blue-green patches indicate vegetation, such as forests, contradicts the theory that the red hue of the bloody planet is produced by red vegetation.—Auburn (N. Y.) Journal.

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